



Uniting Communities in Need  
With Clinicians Who Care

# NHSC SiteLink

Dear NHSC Friends:

*Welcome to NHSC SiteLink, your connection to up-to-date resources and materials that help you better serve your communities. In this issue we have included important information for NHSC clinicians in the Reserves, which we encourage you to read.*

## Special NHSC Conference for Scholars in the 2002 Placement Cycle

Come join your colleagues and peers for an interactive, fast-paced event:

**Date:** October 29–31, 2001  
**Place:** Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia  
**Cost:** NHSC will pay all expenses for Scholars

Come to this conference to network, and use it as a working medium to better prepare yourself for the matching process. We have designed special sessions with you in mind (e.g., NHSC Matching Process, Searching for the Right Site, and Writing a Winning Resume). Be sure to dress for success, and bring your resumes and business cards.

Please call 1-800-676-8785. Online registration will be on our Web site: <http://blswift.net/digctr3/nhscbridging/>. Password to register is: primary 14.

We hope to see you there!

Provider Support Branch  
National Health Service Corps  
301-594-4200

## Special News: What Happens When an NHSC Clinician Is Called to Active Duty?

Some NHSC clinicians with service obligations who are also in the Reserves have been notified that their Reserve units may be activated. Clinicians called to duty must send a copy of their notification letters to the NHSC Provider Support Branch (PSB). Their NHSC commitments will be suspended for the period of time while on military duty. It will be up to the individual site to hold the position for the clinician. When the clinicians are released from active duty, they must send a copy of the release to PSB. Once clinicians resume full-time employment, their NHSC service end dates will be recalculated to reflect the time they were absent. It is important to note that the time clinicians spend serving their military duty does not count toward their NHSC commitments.

## Empower Your Patients

“Five Steps to Safer Health Care” and its companion piece in Spanish (“Cinco Recomendaciones para Recibir una Mejor Atención Médica”) provide patients with the tools for taking an active role in ensuring the safety of their health care. Use these easy-to-read fact sheets in your health promotion activities. Find the English version at <http://www.ahrq.gov/consumer/5steps.htm> and the Spanish version at [www.hrsa.gov/Newsroom/factsheets/cincorecomendaciones.htm](http://www.hrsa.gov/Newsroom/factsheets/cincorecomendaciones.htm).

## Other Opportunities

- **Vision care services without charge for low-income, uninsured workers and their families.** Every March, the American Optometric Association sponsors Vision USA, a program that involves more than 7,000 members providing basic eye care to medically underserved families. If you would like to include your patients in the next Vision USA, write to Vision USA at 243 N. Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri, 63141, for an application.
- **Need some ideas for fundraising?** Check out the Volunteers in Health Care Web site at <http://www.volunteersinhealthcare.org/restip.htm>. Click on “8 Tips to Involve Your Board in Fund Raising” and “Grant Writing Hints” for suggestions on getting everyone involved.
- **Does one of your colleagues deserve recognition for encouraging cultural diversity within a health promotion program for an underserved population?** You can nominate him or her for the Robert F. Allen Symbol of H.O.P.E (Helping Other People Through Empowerment) Award, a \$3,500 award sponsored by the *American Journal of Health Promotion*. The nomination deadline is November 1, 2001. Call 248-682-0707, or inquire by e-mail at [inquiries@healthpromotionjournal.com](mailto:inquiries@healthpromotionjournal.com).

## New Online Resources

- **2001 KIDS COUNT Data Book** is an easy-to-use, powerful database that allows you to generate custom graphs, maps, ranked lists, and state-by-state profiles. You can download the entire KIDS COUNT database set by going to the Annie E. Casey Foundation Web site at [www.aecf.org/kidscount/kc2001/index.htm](http://www.aecf.org/kidscount/kc2001/index.htm).

As always, we want to hear from you. E-mail your feedback to us at [Sitelink@matthewsgroup.com](mailto:Sitelink@matthewsgroup.com).

Thank you!